14th December 1938]

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" There has been a scheme to liquidate the debt, and if the debt cannot be liquidated, Government would not care to keep it for any long period."

SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether any representation has been received from the Raja to hand over the estate to him?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" No."

Water-supply scheme of the Cuddalore Municipal Council.

* 127 *Q.*—SRI R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government directed the Municipal Council, Cuddalore, to keep in readiness Rs. 50,000 from the water fund account to commence the work in the current year and the Council accordingly withdrew the amount from the fixed deposit account in banks, foregoing interest;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Department of Public Works which is in charge of the scheme was about to commence the work in December 1938 and even chalked out a programme of expenditure;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the commencement of the water-supply scheme has been postponed definitely;

(*d*) what the reasons are for the telephonic cancellation of putting the scheme into execution by Government;

(*e*) when the work is likely to be commenced; and

(*f*) whether any allotment has been proposed to be made in the budget for 1939–40 towards the loan and grant for this scheme?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) In July last, the Commissioner of the Cuddalore Municipality was asked to report whether it will be possible for the council to find any portion of its share of the cost of the scheme from its own funds in the current year. He reported that a sum of Rs. 50,000 can be made available for expenditure on the work. In order to find this sum two fixed deposits amounting to Rs. 19,000 were withdrawn by the council when they matured for payment and kept it in the current account anticipating that sanction will be accorded for the execution of the scheme in the current year. The Government did not instruct the council to withdraw the fixed deposits.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*d*) The Government considered the question of sanctioning the execution of the scheme in the current year, but finally decided that it should be put forward as a Part II Scheme for 1939–40 as it was a new scheme involving the payment

[14th December 1938

of a Government grant nearly 3·16 lakhs. Instructions were therefore issued to the Chief Engineer that the execution of the work should not be started in the current year.

" (*e*) It is likely to be taken up for execution during 1939–40.

" (*f*) It is proposed to provide a grant of Rs. 50,000 for the work in the Budget Estimate for 1939–40. No provision need be made for a loan as the council can meet its share of the anticipated expenditure on the work in 1939–40 from its own funds."

Minor Ports Fund and improvements to minor ports.

* 128 *Q.*—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the balances standing to the credit of the Minor Ports Fund in each of the ten years ending with 1937–38;

(*b*) what minor ports have applied for spending of funds in each of the three years ending with 1937–38 and during the year 1938–39 the amount applied for and granted or refused, together with the nature of the works in respect of which the amount was applied for during the said period;

(*c*) whether any applications or representations are now pending before the Government asking for improvements to minor ports; if so, from which minor ports and the nature of such applications or representations;

(*d*) what the minor ports are which left surpluses for being credited to the Minor Ports Fund during each of the ten years ending with 1937–38, the amount of such surpluses of each such port during each of the said years; and

(*e*) what, if any, the minor ports are which incurred deficits during each of the ten years ending with 1937–38, the amount of such deficits of each such port during each of the ten years ending with 1937–38?

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" (*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The information is given in statements [a] I, II and III placed on the table.

" (*d*) & (*e*) As only one account under the name of Minor Ports Fund is maintained it is not possible to find out which ports contributed surpluses and which incurred deficits."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—" Is it a fact that this Minor Ports Fund includes the balances of income derived from shipping and landing?"

The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" No; there is a separate fund for each port for shipping and landing."

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[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 289–292 infra.